

CHAPTER II.

ORGANIZED WORK

The Baptist State Convention was organized in the town of Greenville, March 26, 1830.

The two primary objects the brethren had in mind in the organization of the Convention, were the evangelization of our State, and the education of our young preachers. The fact that our people were called on to aid in the support of Foreign Missions caused them to examine into the base of supplies. This examination revealed to them the necessity of strengthening the churches that were in existence, and of planting new churches where they were needed; this, of course, was State Mission work. They saw, at the very outset, that not much headway could be made in the way of developing the churches without an educated ministry, hence their interest in Ministerial Education.

MEREDITH'S GREAT LETTER.

Thomas Meredith was instructed to write a circular letter to be published in the minutes. The letter covers over fifteen pages of fine print. It is a great denominational document, written by a Christian statesman, and, as a literary production, it is doubtful if it has been equaled by any paper presented to the Convention since.

The letter sets forth the proposed work of the Convention, and appeals to the associations and